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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Canceled)

1 2. (Canceled)

1 3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Canceled)

1 5. (Canceled)

1 6. (Currently Amended) A method for performing
2 participant identification in a conference of a plurality of
3 participants, comprising the steps of:
4 performing a simple speech algorithm to detect a
5 change in an active participant among a set of the plurality of
6 participants using an endpoint telecommunication unit by the
7 endpoint telecommunication unit whereby the speech algorithm
8 only determines the change in the active participant and not the
9 identity of the active participant;
10 signaling the detected change to a ~~conference unit~~
11 system controller that is providing overall control of a
12 telecommunication switching system which comprises the

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13 endpoint telecommunication unit and a conference unit by the
 14 endpoint telecommunication unit by transmission of a message
 15 whereby the conference unit is combining the audio information
 16 from the plurality of participants which contains no audio
 17 information from the active participant;
 18 transmitting another message by the system controller
 19 to the conference unit by the system controller to inform the
 20 conference unit of the detected change; and
 21 determining in response to the other message the
 22 identity of a new active participant of the set of the plurality of
 23 participants by the conference unit performing voice recognition
 24 to identify the new active participant in response to the signaled
 25 change whereby the conference unit processes speech
 26 information from only the endpoint telecommunication unit.

1 7. (Canceled)

1 8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6
 2 wherein the endpoint telecommunication unit is a
 3 telecommunication terminal.

1 9. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6
 2 wherein the endpoint telecommunication unit is a remote switch
 3 connecting a telecommunication terminal used by a subset of
 4 the set of the plurality of participants to the conference unit.

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1 10. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the step
2 of detecting comprises determining a use of a speakerphone on
3 the endpoint telecommunication unit.

1 11. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a
2 conference, comprising:
3 a conference unit which is combining the audio
4 information from the plurality of participants of the conference;
5 a system controller that is providing overall control of a
6 telecommunication switching system which comprises the
7 conference unit [;] and a plurality of endpoint
8 telecommunication units;
9 system controller establishing the conference for a set
10 of participants using a plurality of endpoint telecommunication
11 units;
12 one of the plurality of endpoint telecommunication
13 units providing service for a subset of the set of the plurality of
14 participants, performing a simple speech algorithm to detect a
15 change in a new active participant of the subset of the set of the
16 plurality of participants whereby the speech algorithm only
17 determines the change in the active participant and not the
18 identity of the active participant and signaling the change to the
19 system controller by transmission of a message ~~which contains~~
20 ~~no audio information from the active participant;~~

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21 system controller responsive to the signaled change to
 22 request the conference unit identify the new active participant of
 23 the subset of the set of the plurality of participants; and
 24 the conference unit identifying the new active
 25 participant by performing voice recognition to identify the new
 26 active participant and signaling the identity to the system
 27 controller.

1 12. (Canceled)

1 13. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 11
 2 wherein the one of the plurality of endpoint telecommunication
 3 units is a telecommunication terminal.

1 14. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 11
 2 wherein the one of the endpoint telecommunication units is a
 3 remote switch connecting a telecommunication terminal used
 4 by a subset of the set of the plurality of participants to the
 5 conference unit.

1 15. (Canceled)

1 16. (Canceled)

1 17. (Canceled)

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1 18. (Canceled)

1 19. (Canceled)

1 20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable
 2 medium comprising computer-executable instructions which,
 3 when executed by a processor, perform the steps of configured
 4 for:
 5 performing a simple speech algorithm to detect a
 6 change in an active participant among a set of the plurality of
 7 participants using an endpoint telecommunication unit by the
 8 endpoint telecommunication unit whereby the speech algorithm
 9 only determines the change in the active participant and not the
 10 identity of the active participant;
 11 signaling the detected change to a ~~conference unit~~
 12 system controller that is providing overall control of a
 13 telecommunication switching system which comprises
 14 the endpoint telecommunication unit and a conference
 15 unit by the endpoint telecommunication unit by
 16 transmission of a message whereby the conference unit
 17 is combining the audio information from the plurality of
 18 participants of the conference ~~which contains no audio~~
 19 ~~information from the active participant;~~

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20 transmitting another message by the system
 21 controller to the conference unit to inform the conference
 22 unit of the detected change; and
 23 determining in response to the other message the
 24 identity of a new active participant of the set of the plurality of
 25 participants by the conference unit performing voice recognition
 26 to identify the new active participant in response to the signaled
 27 change whereby the conference unit processes speech
 28 information from only the endpoint telecommunication unit.

1 22. (Canceled)

1 23. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable
 2 medium of claim 21 wherein the endpoint telecommunication
 3 unit is a telecommunication terminal.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable
 2 medium of claim 21 wherein the endpoint telecommunication
 3 unit is a remote switch connecting a telecommunication
 4 terminal used by the set of the plurality of participants to the
 5 conference unit.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable
 2 medium of claim 21 wherein ~~the detecting comprises~~
 3 determining a use of the endpoint telecommunication unit is a
 4 speakerphone on the endpoint telecommunication unit.